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NOV 21 1947

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FROM : Information Control, 030
COUNTRY : Germany (Russian Zone)
SUBJECT : Archives Section of the Directorate of Internal Affairs, SMA

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DATE OF INFORMATION

EVALUATION

1. The Archives Subsection (Arkhivnoye Otdelenie) is one of several miscellaneous Subsections under the II Section of the UVD, Directorate of Internal Affairs of the Soviet Military Administration for Germany. This Subsection, which in general conducts searches for various archives and documents, classifies them, and issues instructions for their proper disposition, is headed by Major Alexander Nikolaevich KEBROV, in Berlin-Karlshorst. The functions of the Archives Subsection are specifically as follows:

a. Supervision of all Archive Sections in the provinces of the Russian Zone.

b. Search for German archives, examination of their contents, selection of that which is of primary interest to the USSR. All material dealing with the history of revolutionary movements in Europe is forwarded to the Marx-Engel-Lenin Institute, Moscow. Diplomatic archives are forwarded to the Chief Central Archives Department, MVD, USSR (Glavnoye Tsentralnoye Arkhivnoye Upravlenie). The chief of this Department is Major General NIKITINSKY.

c. Search for archives of educational, technical and chemical institutions. Such archives are forwarded to the department of the SMA which handles German scientific matters.

d. Search for archives and valuable material taken during the war from the USSR by Germans.

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2. In each province of the Russian Zone of Occupation, an Archives Section is a part of the provincial Section for Internal Affairs (Otdel Vnutrennikh Del or OVD) of the UVD, Berlin-Karlshorst. Representatives of such provincial Archives Sections examine all archives of that particular province and forward their reports to the Archives Subsection at Berlin-Karlshorst, which issues appropriate directives for their disposition. The more important archives are forwarded to Berlin-Karlshorst and from there to Moscow.

3. Documents evidencing subjects dealt with by the Archives UVD Subsection and OVD Sections include the following:

a. A top secret memorandum dated 21 March 1947, prepared by Lt. MILUSHIN, UVD, SMA, which lists Ukrainian-German organizations formerly and currently operating in the city of Berlin, the archives of which organizations are subject to requisition and return to the USSR.

b. A top secret memorandum prepared by Lt. Col. ANOKHIN, Deputy Chief, OVD, SMA, Province Brandenburg, dated 22 March 1947, and addressed to Major General MALKOV, which reviews the activities of certain German personalities and organizations in the seizure of Soviet documents during the war. A list of fifty-two names of persons wanted by the UVD, SMA, for seizing and evacuating Soviet Government documents is attached.

c. UVD, SMA, Headquarters' comments on disposition of documents found by OVD Archives Sections of Province and Land Saxony are contained in two memoranda.

d. A lengthy report prepared by Major General MALKOV, addressed to Colonel General I.A. SEROV, Deputy Minister, MVD, USSR, which deals with all important archives and documents processed by the OVD, SMA, archives subsections, as of June 1946, of governmental and operational interest. These are in part:

(1) In the Province of Brandenburg:
German Government and Military Archives - 85 gross tons
Nazi Party Archives - 3000 files
ROSENBERG Archives - 500 cases
Library of the former Kaiser Wilhelm - 4000 books
Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs - 3000 books
Diplomatic Archives - 7000 books

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(2) In the Province of Saxony:
Berlin Police Archives - 1896 to 1933

[redacted] all the documents were found to be in good condition, and were being guarded by the Military Commandant.

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[redacted]

e. A memorandum from a newly identified MVD Directorate, (GUPVP - Glavnoye Upravleniye Po Voenne-Plennikh) Central Directorate for Prisoner of War Affairs, Deputy Chief ANTONOV, requesting investigation by the UVD of an anti-Soviet publication in Berlin, being sent to prisoners of war in Russia.

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f. A top secret memorandum dated 27 August 1947 from Major General MALKOV, instructing Lt. Col. PROKOPUK, Chief of OVD, Land Saxony, to prepare for shipment to POCHERUTOV, Chief, Secret Section, Academy of Science, Moscow, archives consisting of old correspondence between Czars of Russia and German Kaisers.

[redacted]

g. A memorandum by MALKOV in answer to a request of Major FEDOROV, Chief of the OVD, Province of Mecklenburg, apparently for statistical data on behalf of the "Munich Historical Commission" on Jews and Poles residing in the Province of Mecklenburg and other occupied zones of Germany. MALKOV's memorandum advises the Commission to address itself to the German Central Statistical Administration.

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h. A memorandum written by Major General MALKOV to Lt. General LUKYANCHENKO, Chief of Staff, Soviet Military Administration for Germany, on the subject of international patents found in Herlitz, Land Saxony.

[redacted]

i. A memorandum dated 30 September 1947 from MALKOV to Chief, Directorate of Counter-Intelligence SMERSH of the Group of Soviet Occupation Forces in Germany, Lt. General KOROLOV, dealing with archives captured by Counter-Intelligence Section SMERSH of the First Tank Army in May 1945.

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NOTE: [redacted] SMERSH no longer exists as such, but has been superseded by MGB Oper Gruppi and Special Sections. It is concluded from present information that Counter-Intelligence Sections, SMERSH, still exist with army units and perform their original functions, i.e. cleansing the army of unreliable elements.

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The larger functions which SMERSH had assumed during the war, i.e. building informant nets, dispatching agents, arresting German nationals in automatic arrest categories, etc., have, however, been taken over by MGB Oper Sectors and their subordinate sections. In enlarging its counter-intelligence activities, the MGB undoubtedly absorbed a large percentage of former MVD and SMERSH personnel.

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